Free travel in Green Lines Services

3979. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Green Line Services were introduced to provide comfort and fast journeys to commuters of Delhi;

(b) whether it is also a fact that certain categories of people viz staff of D.T.C., Policemen and Home Guards have been permitted to travel without any payment or Pass;

(c) whether such facility is causing inconvenience and annoyance to the commuters of 'Green Line Services;

(d) if so, whether Government propose to allow General Pass holders to travel in Green Line Buses; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons for permitting such free travel to the above category of people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No. Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Tax on Tata Estate Cars

3980. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of 'Tata Estate' cars registered in Delhi during the last three years;

(b) what is the quantum of Tax collected annually from such registration; and

(c) whether Government propose to reduce the tax on these cars?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) 39.

(b) One time lumpsum road tax of Rs. 2875/- per vehicle is charged at the time of registration.

(c) No, Sir.

Promotion of Export-Import Park

3981. DR. SANJAYA SINH: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Visakhapatnam Port Trust has any plan to promote an Export-Import Park for allotment to Port-based industries; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) Visakhapatnam Port Trust (VPT) has identified about 800 acres of land for leasing to Port based industries to promote exports and imports. VPT will entertain requests for lease of plots of about 10 acres and less to industries engaged in export/import provided they meet certain conditions like minimum guarantee of cargo etc.

Affairs of Dredging Corporation of India

3982. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be leased to state:

(a) the number of dredgers and other machinery available with dredging corporation of India;

(b) the number of those which are in working condition;

(c) what is their total value and what is the volume of work turned out by these annually; and

(d) what are its accumulated losses itemwise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Dredging Corporation of India is equipped with eight Trailer Suction Dredgers, three Cutter Suction Dredgers, three Portable Cutter Suction Dredgers (Inland Dredgers) and a Desiltation Plant, one sea-going Tug, two Work Boats, two 'A' Frame Pontoons, one Crane Barge, three Cranes and two small Bulldozers.

(b) All of these equipments are in working condition.

(c) Total written down value of these equipments after accounting for depreciation is Rs. 200.42 crores. During the past three years, quantities dredged by DCI are given below:

1989-90	24.29 million M^3
1990-91	28.63 million M^3
1991-92	37.86 million M^3

(d) Does not arise as DCI has been consistently making profit since its inception.

Cultivation of Forests on the land along National Highways

3983. SHRI SHIVAJIRAO GIRIDHAR PATIL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the area of land which is lying un-used on both sides of the National Highways in the country;

(b) whether any proposal is under Government's consideration for utilising this land for cultivating forests, in collaboration with the State Government; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the percentage of land which has been brought so far under forest cultivation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER):

(a) to (c) Land on both sides of the National Highways for some width has to be kept free from any obstruction for requirements of sight distance, traffic safety, laying of services, provision of service roads, drainage, improvement to junction, future widening etc.

Plantation of trees along National Highways is an accepted policy of the Government since the last several years, and is a continuing activity depending on availability of land within the right-of-way where plantation can be done, adequacy of funds etc. In most States, plantation of trees is being done through the State Forest/Horticulture Departments or in consultation with them.

According to an assessment made in September, 1991 tree plantation has been done in about 60 per cent of the length of the National Highways, where plantation is feasible.

Operation of private buses under DTC

3984. SHRIMATI SATYA BAHIN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the maximum number of passengers allowed in each category of the private buses under D.T.C. operation;

(b) the number of operating staff prescribed, including the driver, conductor and others;

(c) the number of such staff who are D.T.C. employees and also those who are employed by the private operators; and

(d) whether the above staff is required to wear uniform?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) 66 passengers in each bus.

(b) The Agreement entered into between DTC and the Private Operators prescribes that there should be a Conductor and a Driver in each of the private buses.

(c) All staff are employed by the private operators.

(d) Yes, Sir.